

REMARKS

Claims 1-35 are pending in the present reissue application. This application is a reissue application of the U.S. Patent No. 5,916,127 ("the '127 Patent"). The '127 patent was issued from the application 08/688,622 ("the '622 Application").

This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action mailed August 26, 2003. In the Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 4-5, 7, 9, 12, and 20-27 under 25 U.S.C. §251 and claims 1, 4-5, 7, 9, 12, 20, 21, and 25-27 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). The Examiner allowed claims 14-19, 28 and 35. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 14. Reconsideration in light of the amendments and remarks made herein is respectfully requested.

I. CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 12, 20, 21, and 25-27 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,672,726 issued to Wolf et al. ("Wolf") or U.S. Patent No. 2,798,360 issued to Hazen et al. ("Hazen").

Applicant has amended claim 1 to provide further specificity to the claim language. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) be withdrawn.

II. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 14-19, 28, and 35. The Examiner further states that if amended to clearly state that the respective first and second streams are supersonic and subsonic, claim 1 and all current dependent claims including claims non-elected species, i.e., all of claims 1-13 and 20-27, will also be allowed.

Applicant has amended claims 1 and 14 to provide further specificity to claim 1 language and clarification to claim 14. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that claims 1-28, and 35 be allowed.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks made above, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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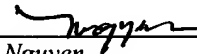
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